

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/995,328

Examiner

Paul A. Zucker

Applicant(s)

BERTRAM ET AL, CA

Art Unit

1621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Applicants' amendment and declaration of 11/19/2003.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 3,4 and 6-10 renumbered 1-7, respectively.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ . |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____ | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

**JOHANN RICHTER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 1200**

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instantly claimed process for the preparation of phenylene-bis-benzimidazole-tetrasulfonic acid di-sodium salt substantially free of discoloration causing by-products is patentable over the teachings of the closest art of record: Pelzer et al (US 5,585,091 12-1996), Wang et al (Paper American Chemical Society, 220th, POLY-416, 03-2000) and Heywang et al (US 5,473,079 12-1995). Applicants have demonstrated (Declaration, paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12- page 12, end of 2nd full paragraph) unexpected results in the significant reduction in colored impurities in the product phenylene-bis-benzimidazole-tetrasulfonic acid di-sodium salt resulting from the process of the invention. One of ordinary skill in the art could not have predicted this result upon applying the modifications suggested by the teachings of Wang and Heywang to the process taught by Pelzer. The instantly claimed process is therefore patentable over the teachings of Pelzer, Wang and Heywang.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 1621

Conclusion

1. All Post-Allowance correspondence concerning this application must be mailed to the following address: BOX ISSUE FEE, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231 or fax them to The Office of Patent Publications at 703-308-5083 in order to expedite the handling of such correspondence (amendments under 37 CFR 1.132; information disclosure statements, formal drawings, etc.)

Sending Post-Allowance papers to the technology center will only cause delays in matching papers with the case.

Contact Information

For information concerning:

- Status of correspondence sent after receipt of the Notice of Allowance
 - ◆ **Contact – Correspondence Branch at 703-305-8027**
- Notices of Abandonment for failure to pay the Issue Fee or Failure to submit formal drawings Contact – 703-305-5358/5340 or by fax 703-305-8755
- Issue Fees that have not been paid for at LEAST 3 months, but no issue notification has been received Contact – 703-305-8263
- Non-receipt of the Letters Patent Contact – 703-305-8263
- Status of application after the Issue Fee has been paid
- Status of Issue Fee payments or status of receipt of Issue Fees
- Status of allowed applications after receipt of drawings or fees
- Status of receipt of formal drawings after allowance
- ◆ **Contact – Customer Service at 888-786-0101 or 703-308-6789 or 703-305-8497 or 703-305-8495 or 703-308-6790 or by fax at 703-308-5065**

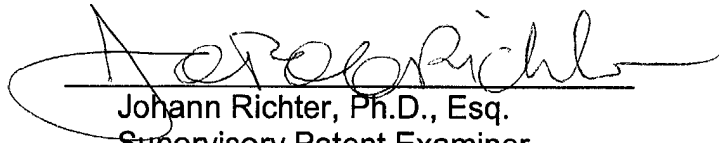
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul A. Zucker whose telephone number is 703-306-0512. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00-3:30.

Art Unit: 1621

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Johann R. Richter can be reached on 703-308-4532. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1235.

Paul A. Zucker, Ph. D.
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600



Johann Richter, Ph.D., Esq.
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600